



**BOARD FOR GEOLOGISTS AND GEOPHYSICISTS**  
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**MINUTES OF THE  
EXAMINATION COMMITTEE MEETING  
February 1, 2002**

**2535 Capitol Oaks Drive, Suite 300A  
Sacramento, CA 95833**

**1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

John Williams, Ph.D., Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

**2. ROLL CALL TO ESTABLISH QUORUM**

John Williams, Ph.D., Chair  
Laura Cathcart  
Victor Cherven, Ph.D.  
Rebecca Sterbentz  
Ernest Weber

Absent:  
Scott Hector  
Karen Melikian

Also in attendance:  
Robert A. Matthews, Ph.D., Board Member  
Paul Sweeney, Executive Officer

Dr. Williams added to the agenda, Items Nos. 7a, Letter of Appreciation to Seena N. Hoose, and 7b, Report on California State University meeting of geology department chairs.

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

There was no public comment.

**4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF NOVEMBER 2, 2001**

**Mr. Weber moved to approve the minutes of the open session of the November 2, 2001, meeting.**

**Dr. Cherven seconded.**

**The motion passed by majority.** (Aye – Cathcart, Cherven, Weber, Williams. Abstain – Sterbentz)

**Mr. Weber moved to approve the minutes of the closed session of the November 2, 2001, meeting.**

**Dr. Cherven seconded.**

**The motion passed by majority.** (Aye – Cathcart, Cherven, Weber, Williams. Abstain – Sterbentz)

**5. REPORT ON STATUS OF REGISTERED GEOPHYSICIST  
OCCUPATIONAL ANALYSIS FOCUS GROUP**

Mr. Sweeney reported that he met with Denise Brown, Chief Deputy Director, Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA), Lynn Morris, Deputy Director for Board Relations, DCA, and executive officers of other DCA boards regarding the current status of the Office of Examination Resources (OER).

Currently OER has no psychometricians because Norman Hertz, Ph.D., and Roberta Chin, Ph.D., left state service in December 2001; and Tracy Ferrel, Ph.D., accepted a promotion with the State Personnel Board in November 2001. DCA is requesting a hiring freeze exemption from the Department of Finance to fill Dr. Hertz' position as manager. In the meantime, DCA requests that the Board postpone the Registered Geophysicist task analysis until next year due to lack of adequate staff.

OER will perform the criterion-referenced pass point workshops for the spring examinations.

**6. FINAL REPORT ON FALL 2001 EXAMINATIONS AND INITIAL REPORT  
ON SPRING 2002 EXAMINATIONS**

The Committee reviewed attendance statistics and pass rates for the fall 2001 examinations and initial attendance statistics for the spring 2002

examinations. The Committee also reviewed attendance trends for the past fourteen years.

**7. RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF CANDIDATES FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE COMMITTEE**

The Committee reviewed resumes of applicants for membership on the Committee to replace Mr. Weber and Dr. Williams whose terms expire on June 30, 2002.

The Committee agreed to recommend to the Board the appointment of Martine Alter and Thomas Spittler. The Committee recommended James Ashby and Steven Lipshie as alternates.

**7a. ENDORSEMENT OF COMMENDATION TO SEENA N. HOOSE**

The Committee endorsed a commendation to Seena N. Hoose expressing its appreciation for her valuable service to the Committee and also for her long and useful service as a board member. Dr. Williams and Mr. Sweeney will draft the commendation.

**7b. REPORT ON CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY MEETING OF GEOLOGY DEPARTMENT CHAIRS**

Dr. Williams reported that the California State University Geology Department Chairs met on December 7, 2001, at Sonoma State. They discussed areas of mutual concern, particularly the under enrollment of geology majors and hiring of new geology faculty.

Dr. Williams adjourned the meeting to closed session to consider examination matters as authorized by section 11126(c)(1) of the Government Code.

The open meeting resumed.

**15. REPORT ON RESULTS OF CLOSED SESSION**

Dr. Williams reported that during closed session the committee performed the final review of the spring 2002 examinations, reviewed the summaries and answer keys for the spring 2002 examinations, selected graders for the spring 2002 examinations, reviewed proposed questions for and revisions to existing questions in the Registered Geologist California- Specific examination bank, reviewed comments submitted by fall 2001 examination graders, reviewed comments of the fall 2001 criterion-referenced pass point workshops participants and discussed the distribution of questions in each examination bank.

**16. ESTABLISH AGENDA FOR NEXT EXAMINATION COMMITTEE MEETING AND HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS**

The Committee will perform the initial review of the spring 2003 examinations and item writing at the June 7, 2002, meeting.

**17. ADJOURNMENT**

Dr. Williams adjourned the meeting at 3:00 PM.

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**JOHN WILLIAMS, Ph.D., Chair**

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**PAUL SWEENEY, Executive Officer**

**Date Approved:** June 7, 2002